



**NOTICE OF 30-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**  
**Cigar Factory Site**  
**701 East Bay Street and 47 and 53 Columbus Street, Charleston, South Carolina**

DHEC (the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control) is accepting public comments on a proposed Voluntary Cleanup Contract through March 31, 2014.

The Voluntary Cleanup Contract, 14-6251-NRP, will affect approximately 4.37 acres identified by Charleston County tax map numbers 4590601040, 4590604012 and 4590604013. A company known as Cigar Factory Development, LLC (CFD) wants to acquire the property from the current owner. This Voluntary Cleanup Contract will be between DHEC and CFD.

The property has been used for various industrial operations since the late 1800's. Past uses of the property include a cotton textile mill, cigar factory, storage facility, and a janitorial chemical company. One portion of the property has been used as a dry-cleaner. Some of these past uses may have caused environmental pollution on the property. Currently, the surrounding land use is a mix of residential, commercial, and industrial uses.

CFD intends to develop the property for commercial use. If this Voluntary Cleanup Contract is implemented, DHEC will allow CFD to acquire the property as a "Brownfields Site" because of the potential for environmental pollution from past industrial operations on the property. DHEC will not hold CFD responsible for pre-existing pollution in exchange for doing work under the Voluntary Cleanup Contract. Under the proposed contract, CFD will test soil and groundwater on the property. If significant contamination is found, CFD will be required to take steps to protect human health and the environment. CFD did not create the pollution, but will control it to keep the property safe for re-use.

Under State law, CFD will not be responsible if anyone has been affected by the contamination. The responsibility of former owners or operators of the property is not reduced by this contract. DHEC uses Voluntary Cleanup Contracts to encourage productive reuse of Brownfield sites.

The proposed contract is available at <http://www.scdhec.gov/environment/lwm/publicnotice.htm>. Printed copies may be obtained from the DHEC Freedom of Information Office at (803) 898-3882.

The public may provide written, email, or telephone comments on the proposed contract through March 31, 2014. Questions or comments may be directed to Angela Gorman, Project Manager, by e-mail at [gormanak@dhec.sc.gov](mailto:gormanak@dhec.sc.gov), telephone (803) 898-0929, or TOLL-FREE telephone (866) 576-3432. Written comments should be directed to Angela Gorman at SCDHEC, 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, SC 29201.